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Legislature Begins Task of Passing on Bills

(From Headquarters of California State Federation of Labor)

The last meeting of the Assembly industrial relations committee reported favorably on the following bills of interest to labor:

A.B.58 (Hawkins et al) which provides that a woman shall be paid the same scale of wages as a man engaged in doing the same or equal work or in performing the same or equal service of labor. This bill is similar in intent to S.B.1253, introduced by Seawell.

A.B.331 (Gaffney et al) puts teeth in existing provisions protecting minors employed as performers in theatres, motion picture, radio broadcasting or television studios, by making violation of any of these provisions of any adult a misdeameanor.

A.B.334 (Gaffney et al) changes wording in existing provisions in regard to the handling of weights by women employees, so as to cover all objects that must be moved or lifted by them, rather than "Receptacles" and their contents.

A.B.467 (Burns) transfers existing provisions relating to tanks and boilers from the Health and Safety Code to the Labor Code.

A.B.920 (Johnson) exempts employees in laboratories operating under licenses from either or both the United States Department of Treasury or the United States Department of Agriculture, in addition to the other exemptions provided for in Section 1352 of the Labor Code relating to hours of employment for women.

A.B.921 (Johnson) would prevent the nationals of nations allied with the United States in the present war, or the nationals of nations with which the United States is at peace, from acquiring pension or retirement rights although they may be employed by the State of California, or by any county, city or county, city, town, district or any other political

subdivision thereof. The section of the Labor Code which it amends is 1944.1. It also proposes to have the present section remain in effect until the 57th regular session of the legislature or until the cessation of hostilities or present wars in which the United States is now engaged, whichever occurs first, instead of until the 56th regular session.

A.B.936 (Johnson) which would have a similar effect by adding Section 32(a) to Section 1944.1.

A.B.1716 (Dunn) puts stronger teeth in provision forbidding false representation of anything as union-made by declaring that anyone who aids, abets, advises or encourages another to violate this provision is equally guilty with the violator of a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of not more than \$500 or by imprisonment in the county jail for not more than 90 days, or by both.

A.B.1672 (O'Day) provides for a flat increase of \$25 per month in addition to all increases previously granted to state employees and 4th calendar quarters of each fiscal year and for the 97th and 98th fiscal years, unlike S.B.513 (Shelley), which provides for a flat increase of \$25 per month in addition to the \$25 or \$20 emergency increases under the 1943 Budget Act. Shelley's bill was sponsored by the Federation.

Bills to be heard by the Senate Governmental Efficiency Committee:

S.B.76 (Desmond & Tenney), also concerned with wage increases for state employees, but not as favorable as the Federation-sponsored Shelley bill, S.B.513.

S.B.77 (Desmond and Tenney) a favorable bill which covers the state employees compensated by daily or hourly rates of pay.

FULL EMPLOYMENT BILL SUBMITTED TO LEGISLATURE

A.B.2136, providing for a fulltime economy in California, was introduced on March 7 by Assemblyman McMillan by the request of the following Assemblymen: Allen, Anderson, Beal, Beck, Bennett, Berry, Brady, Brown, Burkhalter, Collins, George D., Crichton, Crowley, Debs, Dekker, Dills, Clayton, A. Dills, Ralph C., Doyle, Dunn, Emlay, Evans, Fletcher, Gaffney, Guthrie, Haggerty, Hawkins, Heisinger, Kilpatrick, King, Lowrey, Massion, Midough, O'Day, Pelletier, Robertson, Rosenthal, Sawallisch, and Thomas. It has been referred to the Committee on Governmental Efficiency and Economy.

Briefly, the bill may be summarized as follows:

1. Purpose: To maintain full employment in California.

2. Abolishes Reconstruction and Reemployment Commission and transfers its functions to the Governor.

3. Creates Joint Committee on the Production and Employment Budget, whose recommendations are to serve as a framework for postwar policy for other legislative committees.

4. Governor is to submit a state production and employment budget each year to the Legislature when in regular session or to the Joint Committee during those years the Legislature does not meet. Report to include: estimated labor force, employment opportunities, general programs for encouraging non-governmental investment and expenditures, and for providing state investment and expenditures to help achieve or maintain sufficient employment opportunities, etc.

Statement by Kagel on Bay Area Manpower Situation

The following statement was released early this week by Sam Kagel, State Manpower Director, WMC, on behalf of the Labor-Management Committee of the War Manpower Commission, Northern California:

"It can be stated officially that the shortage of manpower on an over-all basis in the San Francisco Bay area has substantially declined. Men with certain specific skills, men who can perform heavy work, and women workers with office and clerical experience, however, are still needed in this area.

"Unless additional new ship construction work is placed in the area, present contracts generally will be completed by December 1945, and unless such additional work is placed here workers on new ship construction will become available for other jobs.

"As of February 15, approximately 100,000 workers were employed directly by the new ship construction yards in the Bay area. By July 15 of this year about 25,000 to 35,000 workers will be tapered off from present employment in all of the Bay area new construction shipyards combined. The remaining employment in this group of Bay area new construction yards will then further decline from July to December, with some workers being retained in those new

ship construction yards reconverting in part to ship repair.

"Ship repair and operations having to do with transhipment of men and material to the Pacific war fronts will increase in their labor demands during this same period. However, these demands in large part will be for certain specific skills in the cases of both men and women.

"The manpower job, therefore, of everyone in this area from now on is to man the growing installations, both private and Government, which are and will continue to be in need of war workers.

"The Labor-Management Committee of the War Manpower Commission, Northern California, therefore urges the community, employers and workers to:

"(1) Observe War Manpower Commission regulations. The very high degree of compliance by both labor and management with WMC regulations in this area has been a major contribution in the effective prosecution of the war effort. The availability of

some labor because a particular war job is completed does not mean the end of the war, and cannot be used as an excuse by either management or labor for non-compliance with regulations that are designed to aid directly in the over-all war effort.

"(2) Aid in the redistribution of labor as needed labor becomes available. Stay on your present war job and finish that job. And when you are through with your present war job, take another war job for which you may be qualified.

"(3) There are still and will continue to be a number of job openings for certain types of labor. Workers must take those jobs that need to be filled. Our fighting men do their work where it is necessary that it be performed.

"The Labor-Management Committee of the War Manpower Commission, Northern California, is bringing the above facts to the attention of the community, of management and of labor because it has been and it will continue to be its policy to develop an awareness of the facts concerning our manpower situation. We do this because we are convinced from experience that we can count on continued support from the community in our joint effort to give all the aid we can to our fighting men and to help bring this war to a successful conclusion as rapidly as possible."

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Senate Decisively Rejects Forced Labor Service

WASHINGTON.—Showing its overwhelming opposition to labor draft proposals, the Senate rejected, by a vote of 60 to 23, an attempt by Senator Bailey of North Carolina to convert the Revercomb-Robertson "voluntary" manpower bill into a forced labor proposal.

Then the Senate killed the Revercomb-Robertson bill, leaving the way clear for debate and vote on the no labor draft substitute to the May-Bailey bill approved by the Senate Military Affairs Committee. The May-Bailey bill has been passed by the House.

The Revercomb-Robertson measure aimed at voluntary mobilization of labor but it contained one compulsory aspect, directed at "loafers." The Senate would have none of this and defeated the bill by a vote of 54 to 27.

Senator Bailey, co-author of the bill approved by the House accepted the Senate votes as showing decisive sentiment against compulsory service measures. But he added:

"I make a prediction. We will have compulsory legislation within 90 days."

The Senate debate was featured by a slashing attack on compulsory service and Army handling of manpower by Senator Taft of Ohio. Taft denied that compulsory service would increase production and declared that if this country had had 3 times as much manpower 2 years ago, it would not have materially changed the time required to build a two-ocean Navy and turn out the other equipment needed for military operations.

W.M.C. Orders Discharge Of 367 Ship Workers

The War Manpower Commission has ordered the discharge of 367 skilled workers at Mercantile Ship Repairing Co. yard in Brooklyn for alleged infraction of WMC hiring rules.

The workmen, according to W. C. Cameron Edey, metropolitan director of the U. S. Employment Service, had not been hired through WMC channels. He added that they will not be placed in jobs with higher priorities.

"These men were not playing the game," Edey said in explaining the purposes of Inter-Regional Order No. 1 for violation of which the men were ordered removed from their jobs. The order requires that shipyard and production workers be hired through the WMC.

"The purpose of the order," he explained, "is to conserve labor in the shipbuilding industry and to direct workers to work of highest priority. There had been a practice before the order was issued of hiring workers at one yard when the real demand was at another yard. Unquestionably, there is more

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need for most of these men at other yards than in the jobs from which they are being removed."

He said the removal at the Brooklyn shipyard was the first in "volume." Previously there have been minor cases, in which 1 to 4 workers were ordered out of their jobs for violating the order.

Increased Output Brings Release from 7-Day Week

The tire industry has been released from its pledge of 7-day-a-week operations. Soaring production has outrun the supply of the essential ingredients, carbon black.

The War Production Board and the War Department jointly announced that plants and workers could return to the 6-day week for the remainder of March.

In achieving what WPB called a "truly remarkable" 46 per cent industry-wide increase in heavy tire output since October, some plants have outstripped their supply of tire cord as well as carbon black.

WPB said it was pushing efforts to bring cord and carbon black production up to where they would again support Sunday production.

Boilermakers' Official Dies

KANSAS CITY, Kans.—William E. Walter, secretary-treasurer of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, died at his home here after a sudden heart attack.

Though ill for several months, he continued his duties without a letup until the end came. He would have reached the age of 64 on April 21, but looked years younger. He had been a member of the Boilermakers for more than 40 years.

As a young man in East St. Louis, Ill., Mr. Walter organized Lodge 363 of the Boilermakers. He became business representative of the lodge and from time to time he served the International in various capacities.

In recognition of his ability, the 1930 convention of the Boilermakers elected him a vice-president. Six years later, on the death of Secretary-Treasurer Charles F. Scott, he was appointed to the vacancy by President J. A. Franklin, who is now president emeritus.

He was elected to the position at the 1937 convention and re-elected in 1944, each time without opposition.

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Report Knocks Props from Demand for Draft of Labor

WASHINGTON.—A sensational official report, which knocks the props out of the military authorities' continued demands for a compulsory labor draft, has just been made public by the War Manpower Commission.

The report, prepared by Director E. G. Bewkes of the W.M.C.'s Bureau of Manpower Utilization, makes these startling disclosures:

"The amount of labor required for present and foreseeable war production is for the most part already on the employment rolls of the country.

"A 5 to 10 per cent improvement in manpower utilization would be sufficient to provide all necessary labor.

"There is not a factory in this country which could not easily improve its utilization to this degree.

"Resulting action could add the equivalent of 500,000 to 800,000 to the labor force."

Mr. Bewkes cited numerous specific instances of far greater increases in manpower utilization and productivity following surveys by his bureau.

His report provides a powerful argument for supporters of legislation now being debated in the Senate to empower the War Manpower Commission to investigate labor waste, overstaffing and other conditions which result in ineffective use of existing manpower.

"Absenteeism, turnover and malaise of labor are still widespread," Mr. Bewkes declared in his report. "No amount of generalized campaigns to remedy this situation will keep workers in plants if the working conditions are inexcusably bad, if the facilities are primitive, or if the living conditions outside of working hours are detrimental.

"The causes of turnover and absenteeism have got to be singled out and removed plant by plant. Then again, the working conditions may be very good, but the use of the workers may be very wasteful. The supervision may be poor, provision for training workers may be lacking, the layout of the work too cumbersome, progressive upgrading may be overlooked, the plant may be greatly overstaffed. In the last analysis, it is only on a plant-by-plant basis that these causes can be isolated and dealt with, for there is no single cause for absenteeism, turnover or wasted productivity.

"There is always some pattern of causes which must be traced out in each plant suffering from malutilization. This has to be done by management and labor, either through their own efforts or with the assistance of competent and trained personnel brought in from the outside or supplied by Government services."

Mr. Bewkes recommended that the National Management-Labor Policy Committee of the W.M.C. "might very well be the spearhead of this expanded effort."

"Certainly," he said, "this committee could readily devise ways and means for drawing upon so rich a source of manpower. It is looked to by management and labor for leadership on all matters affecting manpower. This committee has nationwide contact with regional and area Management-Labor Committees and is, therefore, in a unique position to provide constructive leadership."

The United States never lost a war or won a conference.—Will Rogers.



Watchmakers' Union

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W.P.B.-O.P.A. Low-Cost Clothing Program Disappointing, Spokesmen of Thirteen Consumer Organizations Say

Expressing their disappointment with the W.P.B.-O.P.A. clothing program, in a joint letter to W.P.B. Chairman Krug and Price Administrator Bowles, representatives of thirteen consumer organizations who had commended the program as it was announced January 23, declared that they had "been led to expect far more from this program than it will at best achieve."

They reminded Krug that he had promised to take more drastic steps if the program failed to meet the need for essential low-priced clothing, and asked the following questions, "in order," they said, "that we may correctly inform the members of our organizations who are face to face with the problem of securing the clothing desperately needed by their families," and who are "impatient over the failure of your earlier measures."

Five Questions Asked

What will the W.P.B. do:

"1. If insufficient cloth to satisfy all priorities is produced, or if the cloth produced is of unsuitable types?

"2. If manufacturers use all their priority ratings for high-priced rather than low-priced goods?

"3. If manufacturers of low-cost clothing cannot find materials in the market?

"4. If manufacturers do not take up all their priorities?

"5. If the order is violated?"

They expressed particular concern over enforce-

ment and asked, "Will it be possible to enforce the orders, or will a serious black market in textiles develop?"

Three Basic Defects Seen

"Even if the program works perfectly," they pointed out, "it will still have three fundamental defects:

"1. It is not a low-price program, and will not get enough low-priced clothing on the market.

"2. It will not take off the market the luxury products whose presence arouses so much resentment among ordinary consumers.

"3. It will not stop quality deterioration and the use of poor quality, sleazy materials, for the orders contain no quality controls."

"O.P.A.'s Maximum Average Price Regulation is the only part of the entire program which will actually push production toward lower-priced goods," the letter said. "As one part of a strong low-price program, the Maximum Average Price Regulation should be very effective. But with a W.P.B. order which fails to direct production toward low-price lines, and in the absence of quality controls, it is hard to see how the Maximum Average Price Regulation alone can achieve the desired result."

Representatives of the following labor organizations were among the signers of the letter:

National Women's Trade Union League; Ladies' Auxiliary to the Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen; Congress of Women's Auxiliaries, C.I.O.; Women's Auxiliaries, American Federation of Labor; National Farmers' Union.

TIGHTEN ON SUPPLEMENTAL GAS

Trade union officials wanting supplemental gasoline rations will henceforth have to be specifically engaged in recruiting or training industrial workers or in maintaining peaceful labor relations, O.P.A. announced. The O.P.A. release, in explaining the tightening of the regulation, says: "From the beginning of rationing, the importance of many volunteer activities was recognized and persons who were regularly engaged in volunteer activities that contributed to the war effort and public welfare were allowed additional gasoline rations on the same basis as persons engaged in gainful occupations. This language, however, was so broad in scope that it was found to include activities for which the use of extra gasoline from a very limited supply could not be justified."

UPHOLDS BAN AGAINST HOMEWORK

The U. S. Supreme Court ruled by a 7 to 2 vote that the wage-hour administrator has authority to include a ban on home work in a minimum wage order for the embroidery industry. Gemsco, Inc., and several home workers in the industry appealed to the high tribunal from a decision by the Federal Circuit Court of Appeals in New York City. The Justice Department told the Supreme Court that a 40-cent minimum wage order without a prohibition of home work "would be a nullity because it could not be enforced."

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Sustains Procedure of State Accident Commission

Paul Scharrenberg, director of Industrial Relations, was recently informed by the U. S. Supreme Court that the procedure of the California Industrial Accident Commission in deciding cases had been upheld by that court. The notification to the Director informed him that the court had denied a petition filed in the U. S. Supreme Court by the California Shipbuilding Corporation in the case in which an employee was killed when he walked off the end of a scaffold which should have had a guard rail.

The commission referee who heard the case recommended to the Commission that the employer be held liable for "serious and wilful misconduct" and stated that the case was the worst of its kind that had ever been assigned to him to hear. The Commission adopted the recommendation of the referee and awarded the widow \$2,500 over and above the normal death benefit.

The employer appealed the case to the State District Court of Appeal, claiming that the company had been denied "due process of law" in that the Commissioners should have had before them an exact transcript of the testimony rather than only the summaries of the testimony prepared by the trial referee and the rehearing referee. The District Court of Appeal wrote an opinion specifically approving the procedure followed by the Commission. The employer then asked for a hearing by the California Supreme Court. This request was denied. Still not satisfied, the employer filed a petition requesting the United States Supreme Court to review the case.

The procedure followed by the Commission in this case, which is in accordance with the provisions of the workmen's compensation laws, has now received the final stamp of approval in the highest court in the land. This should prove a distinct blow to those who are attempting to make the procedure before the Industrial Accident Commission so complicated and so tied up in red tape that workmen would find it difficult to get their cases heard speedily and without legal folderol.

Gardiner Johnson, attorney and state assemblyman, represented the employer before the Industrial Accident Commission and the State courts. Everett A. Corten and Dan Murphy, Jr., represented the Industrial Accident Commission.

Demand the Union Label, Card and Button.



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FRIDAY, MARCH 16, 1945

Are They Challenging People's Patience?

The State Federation of Labor has rendered signal service in giving publicity to bills pending in the Legislature cunningly designed to establish a highly legalistic procedure in the administration of California's workmen's compensation laws.

Most of these bills are solely and wholly in the interest of private insurance companies and their lawyers. And, significantly, as well as appropriately, these bills are sponsored by members of the Legislature who in private life earn their livelihood, in whole or in part, as lawyers for insurance companies.

The clarion call against a system which permits such piratical attacks upon workmen's compensation laws was sounded at the recent New Orleans convention of the American Federation of Labor. That great assembly by unanimous vote adopted the following declaration:

"There is no more reason for the profit system in workmen's compensation than there is in other forms of social insurance which are provided for entirely through public funds. Private handling of workmen's compensation insurance has kept benefits low and introduced all sorts of legal technicalities which deny workers the benefits due them."

The language of this clear-cut statement is decidedly apropos for the present California situation. In our Legislature, lawyers for insurance companies are the principal advocates "of legal technicalities which deny workers the benefits due them." It may, therefore, be assumed that they are not acting contrary to the wishes of their employers in private life.

These employers, executives of insurance companies, should be reminded that the people of California have been extremely tolerant in permitting wide latitude in the writing of workmen's compensation insurance. Many states reserve the writing of this insurance exclusively within the State Fund. In the past, similar monopolies have been proposed for California, but we have heretofore listened to the plea for private enterprise and have pursued a broad and liberal course, permitting employers the three-way option of self-insurance, private company insurance or State Fund insurance.

Recent developments indicate that this tolerance toward private insurance interests has been a mistake. It may be necessary, for Labor's self-protection, to sponsor an exclusive State Compensation Insurance Fund. The existing Fund is not subsidized by the State, is self-supporting and, in addition, pays the same rate of premium tax as other carriers (including taxes on public agency premiums). Since 1914 the Fund has paid almost four million dollars to the State in taxes and fees. It follows the liberal intent of the workmen's compensation laws and pursues the policy of being a warm-blooded institution,

rather than a cold-blooded one, being influenced by the moralities involved in each situation, rather than the legalities alone. More and more it is striving to relieve human hardship and protect human lives through safety education designed to guard against the hazards of industrial injury. And last, but not least, the State Fund does not employ persons who in their dual capacities as lawyers and legislators strive to make it more and more difficult for the victims of industrial accidents to collect their rightful claims!

Navy Is Grateful for Production

The Navy's gratitude to the men and women whose genius, skill and devotion made the 12-month period ended June, 1944, one of record-breaking production has been reported to the President by Secretary of the Navy James Forrestal.

During this period, Secretary Forrestal said in his annual report, the value of ships, planes and major ordnance items delivered to the Navy rose to 12.7 billion dollars, an increase of 87 per cent over the 1943 fiscal year figures of 6.8 billion dollars. He called this record-breaking production "a solid tribute to the power of industrial America."

At the same time Forrestal warned that the Navy must forearm itself against heavier losses as it approaches Japan, fighting not only the Jap Navy but Jap airpower as well. He cited this as one reason why the Navy, now the largest in the world, must continue to build more ships in 1945, 1946 and 1947. Pointing to another and more profitable reason, Forrestal continued:

"We must maintain and increase the tremendous margin which we now have, the margin which has enabled us to conduct almost simultaneous operations against the Japanese. The Navy's operations in this war resemble the use of multiple teams in football—one team on the field, another on the sidelines, a new, fresh one ready to go in and exploit weaknesses that become apparent. That requires surplus power. With a plentitude of power we are able to have at any given moment a multiple series of attacks under way and in the making."

On O.P.A. Price Enforcement

Wage earners have been the beneficiaries of a good part of the \$200,000,000 savings to consumers from O.P.A. enforcement which reduced retailers' overcharges on food by about 25 per cent below a year ago, the agency announced. Price Administrator Chester Bowles, in reporting on O.P.A.'s fight against "wartime chiselers and profiteers," said that some 331,000 grocers came in to talk over violations with price panels in 1944. About 30,000 cases were referred to O.P.A. enforcement officials at higher levels. Many cases resulted in treble damage suits, license suspensions or outright criminal suits.

Bowles also said that the O.P.A. drive against price and rent violations is being stepped up in every town where they occur.

Shoppers co-operating with local war price and rationing boards are taking over a large part of the enforcement job at the retail level, Bowles reported, leaving the O.P.A. enforcement staff free to concentrate at the manufacturing and wholesale levels. Voluntary price panel assistants, he said, average 400,000 calls at stores a month. Last year they made calls on two of every three stores. There are 1,700,000 retail stores, he cited, in pointing out the impossibility of maintaining a staff large enough to check prices in every one of them. "That is why we must depend on you shoppers," he said.

Bowles advised consumers who have been overcharged to speak first to the proprietor. If he continues to overcharge, the consumer should report the violation to the War Price and Rationing Board.

Demand the Union Label and Union Service.

A.F.L. Bastogne Heroes Make Tour of War Plants

Fifty-six fighting men of Bastogne, who helped turn the tide of the German counter-offensive in Belgium and Luxembourg, are now visiting war plants throughout the country to tell workers how badly the weapons and supplies they produce are needed at the front. The men, some of them union members, were returned from the front lines to help increase production for the Army, which has set its over-all schedules for the year 18.9 per cent higher than all deliveries for 1944.

"All of the increases for 1943 are being made to make sure that our fighting men will defeat the enemy with the minimum cost in American blood," Undersecretary of War Robert P. Patterson said. "Meeting the Army's schedules will place a heavy load on American labor and American industry."

All of the returned veterans are from the 101st Airborne Division, whose commander made history with the reply of "Nuts!" to the German offer of surrender to his isolated troops, or from units of the Third Army which broke through and rescued the surrounded men.

Low in Food, Ammunition

The Bastogne heroes know what it is like to be low on ammunition and equipment, even food. When they rushed December 18 to the small Belgian town their resistance made famous, they were able to take along only small stocks of supplies, some of which they begged from other units along the way.

The enemy immediately surrounded their position, and bad weather made it impossible for planes to drop supplies by parachute or glider. Some men saw artillery, mortars, machine gun, even rifle, ammunition run down to where they had only a few rounds left, with the Germans several hundred yards away.

Among the A.F.L. union members in the group are:

1st Sergeant Thaddeus Maslowski, 31, whose parents live in Lockport, N. Y., member of International Brotherhood of Electricians, when he worked for the New York State Electric & Gas Co. Maslowski holds the Bronze Star, for bravery in action and the Purple Heart for a battle wound.

Other Union Members

Sgt. Joseph G. Pinelli, 25, whose wife and an 11-month-old baby he has never seen reside in Morrisville, Pa., and who carried his membership card in Local No. 26, Brewery and Soft Drink Workers, through the tough battles of Normandy, Arnhem and Bastogne. Pinelli was a jeep master with the 101st Airborne.

Sgt. James E. Colucci, 24-year-old paratroop squad leader and member of Hotel and Restaurant Employees. The son of Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Colucci of Niagara Falls, N. Y., he holds the Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Cluster for two battle wounds.

Technician 5th Grade Nicholas Forte, 36, who lived with his sisters in Logansport, Ind. A former employee of H. W. Gossard Co., Logansport, and member of International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union. Forte won the Silver Star when with the 101st Airborne around Arnhem he kept vital communication lines open under heavy barrages.

FABRICS DEVELOPMENT

Development of special military fabrics is likely to benefit civilians after the war, says a special report on post-war marketing of cotton prepared by an inter-bureau committee of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The report refers particularly to light weight, wind-resistant and water-repellant cotton fabrics that have been developed by the Quartermaster Corps. It is expected that in the post-war period such fabrics will be used in quantity for all types of over-clothing, and particularly for winter work clothing.

Housing—Congress Must Lead

By HARRY C. BATES, Chairman, A.F.L. Housing Committee

(We present herewith the last of a series of articles by Mr. Bates, president of the Bricklayers, Masons and Plasterers' Union, on the nation's housing problems with which he is expertly familiar.)

We have a tremendous job on our hands. It's got to be done. To get it done and to do it right calls for realism, for complete agreement regarding the objective and for real teamwork on the part of all concerned. To have such teamwork we must have the rules of the game clearly defined and agreed to in advance. To enable us to reach our goal there must be leadership and drive. It is up to Congress to provide that leadership and to give the nation a comprehensive program for which it asks.

To be realistic in our effort we must be fully aware of the difficulties and limitations of the task. We must not be led astray by false promises of miracles or by cheap quack remedies. The foremost among the realities facing us is that stable jobs and steady incomes for wage earners are the only source of a large-scale housing market. Unless wage incomes are stabilized at a much higher level than they ever were before the war, no formula and no device will enable us to bring good privately built housing within the financial reach of the great mass of our wage earners.

We must also be realistic about how the job can best be planned, how it can be done and what kind of homes it will provide. The strategy of post-war housing must be bold in its scope but it cannot be divorced from practical experience. The planning it calls for is practical planning. It must reckon in dollars and cents, including the dollars and cents in the worker's pay envelope. Armchair builders and parlor planners will not build post-war housing. What lasting advances we make in providing more and better homes will be brought by the combined skill, experience and ingenuity of American enterprise and given reality by those who have the skill and the know-how of design, development and building.

We must be realistic also in making sure that we provide the kind of housing that the people need and that the people themselves want. In meeting the demand of the people, full use should be made of all modern and real technical advances. We should recognize, however, the plain truth that the average American family does not want a dehydrated home and prefers to live in solidly built, safe and durable dwellings, not in flimsy match boxes.

Peace-Plans Institute Here

Serving as a prelude to the World Peace Conference which will be held here in April, a two-day Institute on the Dumbarton Oaks and Bretton Woods proposals sponsored by the International Center will be held at the St. Francis hotel on March 23 and 24. Dean Acheson, Assistant Secretary of State, and Norman T. Ness, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, will come from Washington, D. C., to participate in the conference.

Acheson, speaking on "Dumbarton Oaks and International Peace," will also review the progress made at the Mexico City conference. Ness will discuss "Currency and World Peace," and will stress the importance of the Bretton Woods monetary conference and its importance in achieving the peace goal.

The conferences will begin at 10 a. m. each day. On March 23 Clark M. Eichelberger, internationally known peace leader, and Dr. Sam D. Thurman, economics professor at Stanford University, will be the speakers at the morning session, with Chester Rowell presiding as chairman.

At the afternoon meeting Augustin C. Keane will preside as chairman and the speakers will be Dr. Elwin D. Dickinson, dean of jurisprudence at the

University of California; Dr. Paul S. Taylor, California, and Dr. Hubert Phillips, professor of social science at Fresno State.

Acheson and Ness will be the speakers at the evening session at Scottish Rite auditorium. They will be introduced by Mayor Lapham. Following the speaking an open forum will be held.

Three separate Institute Forums will be held March 24 starting at 10 a. m. Dr. Phillip W. Buck, professor of political science at Stanford; Dr. J. B. Condliffe, professor of economics, Stanford, and Dr. W. Henry Cooke, professor of history, Claremont Graduate School, will preside. Forum subjects will be "The United States' Responsibility in Post-War Settlement"; "Economic Aspects of Peace," and "International Relations in Schools."

A luncheon meeting will conclude the program. Dr. Monroe E. Deutsch and Eichelberger will make the major addresses.

The two-day session will be open to the public and reservations can be made at International Center headquarters, 68 Post street.

"The best test of truth is the power of the thought itself to get itself accepted in the competition of the market."—Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes.

President Is Asked to Raise Wages 11 Per Cent

"Why are the workers of the nation made to bear the brunt of supporting the entire anti-inflation program?" the American Federation of Labor members of the War Labor Board asked, in challenging the findings of the public members of the board.

The A.F.L. members—George Meany, Matthew Woll, Robert J. Watt and James A. Brownlow—cited the public members' report to support their own argument.

"Wage rates have increased by 10 per cent," they declared, referring to this figure from the report. "The cost of living has advanced, based upon official figures, by 30 per cent."

11 Per Cent Increase Urged

"To correct the maladjustment between wages and the cost of living, when measured by the same standard that was used when the Little Steel formula was adopted, an adjustment of approximately 11 per cent is justifiable."

The labor group charged that the President's 7-point program for stabilization, proposed in April, 1942, "has not been successfully administered" because it allowed prices to jump while wage rates remained virtually frozen.

Pleading the urgent need of establishing wage increases for the post-war period which would compensate workers for the loss of overtime pay when war production ceases, the A.F.L. members urged the President to return collective bargaining 60 days after victory in Europe and provide that minimum pay be raised for workers in those industries in which collective bargaining is not restored.

National Well-Being at Stake

"We are not only sorely wearied and harassed by the expeditors and formulas which have been substituted for the basic principle which guides collective bargaining," the labor men said, "but we are appalled by the consequences of a policy to cripple us in solving the reconversion and post-war problems. Wages are more than compensation for service rendered."

"They determine the kind of homes workers have, the way their lives will be conditioned, the opportunities their children will have, the provisions they can make against emergencies. Wages contribute 75 per cent of the buying power to retail markets. The total of buying power determines the levels of production and therefore national well-being."

The labor members identified collective bargaining with the retention of America's free institutions, warning the President that the danger of the totalitarian state does not end with the war, but "here looms in the economic field."

Warn of Debt Danger

"The war will leave us an enormous indebtedness the interest alone on which will be larger than any national budget of prewar time," they said. "The administrative expenses of our federal government will increase as we assume our obligation in inter-American and world affairs. Unless the national income is large so that taxation can be paid without interfering with other necessary uses of income, our debt charges will absorb funds that are needed to maintain an economy that will provide productive work opportunities for those needing them."

"Jobs, by which wage earners can earn high incomes, are necessary to sustain our economy at a level that will keep us out of bankruptcy. Bankruptcy and unemployment for the United States mean the same fate for the world."

Ask Adequate Pay Now

In order to stem the trend toward totalitarianism, the report added:

"Labor must be ready to enter reconversion and post-war periods with a wage rate that would assure adequate purchasing power. We must have those rates established in advance."

Wage Award for Women in S.F. Bakeries

Secretary Theodore Lindquist of Bakery and Confectionery Workers No. 24 reported to the Labor Council last Friday evening on the wage award gained by the union in behalf of women employed in the wholesale bakery shops. The case originated last spring and when negotiation had failed to bring about agreement the U. S. Conciliation Service was called in, certain points were there adjusted, but without finality on all issues, and the case went before a Tenth Regional War Labor Board panel, on which Jack Maltester sat as a union representative. The final wage award granted by the Regional Board is given below, together with the present wage rate.

The new rates, and indeed the old rates, are a striking example of the power of organization for workers. Prior to organization, women employed in the industry on this general class of work received 7 cents an hour, for a 10-hour day—that is, if there were 10 hours' work, as they might be sent home at noon and be paid only for actual time employed. And this was only one of the conditions which they endured.

COMPARISON OF OLD AND NEW WAGE RATES

Classification

	Old Rate	New Rate	Old Overtime	New Overtime
Hand wrappers, etc.....	.59	.67½	.885	1.1025
Icing Girls (First 3 months).....	.65	.73½	.975	1.1025
Icing Machine Girls, Supervisors Relief on Toast Cutters, Head Dept. Girls, Wrapping Machine Operators.....				
Icing Girls (after 3 months).....	.70	.78½	1.05	1.1775
Ornamental Icing Girls.....	.85	.93½	1.275	1.4025
Forelady79	.87½	1.185	1.3125
Apprentices (3 weeks).....	.55	.63½	.825	.9525

COMPUTATION OF RETROACTIVE PAY

Increase per	Increase per	Increase per	Increase per	Increase per	Increase per
Straight Time Hour	Overtime Hour	8-Hour Day	40-Hour Week	44-Hour Week	48-Hour Week
.085	.1275	.68	3.40	3.91	4.42
Retroactive Pay—May 1, 1944 to December 31, 1944—					
36 Weeks, 48 Hours per Week					
\$159.12					
Retroactive Pay—May 1, 1944 to March 3, 1945—					
45 Weeks, 48 Hours per Week					
\$198.90					

On the day the Nazis seized power in Germany, a famous professor was asked what he would do if he suddenly got a letter from the Gestapo.

"For one thing," he replied, "I would finish reading it on the train."—Federated Press.

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N.Y. WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION

Forty million dollars, exclusive of medical costs that would bring the total to \$60,000,000, was paid in workmen's compensation benefits to injured workers in New York state last year, Industrial Commissioner Edward Corsi reported. This amount was the highest of any year since workmen's compensation was enacted in 1914. Some 385,000 hearings were held in 1944, a peak load since 1938, Corsi said. The proportion of cases in which compensation benefits have been granted has increased from 47 per cent to 72 per cent in the years since the law went into effect, it was said.

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C. of C. Committee Favors Prepaid Health Insurance

Sixteen members of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce have recently completed a series of meetings devoted to a study of the merits of public health insurance and have reported to the Chamber's directorate that "prepaid health insurance is desirable" and that it is "a social need" which "will not be met by voluntary insurance."

A representative of the State Federation of Labor participated in one of the hearings, and explained the position the Federation has taken regarding the Governor's prepaid medical plan, as well as the amendments that the Federation has prepared and submitted.

Other speakers also presented their respective viewpoints on the various bills before the State Legislature, including a representative of the California Medical Association, who opposed the prepaid medical health service plan in favor of so-called voluntary health insurance.

There are still a number of points on which the committee did not take a definite position. These include the question of the financial soundness of the plan submitted, as well as the breadth of coverage, types of services, and benefits conferred. It is clear, however, that the prevailing tendency is extremely favorable toward a prepaid health plan.

WOMEN THERAPISTS' ROLE

Women physical therapists, who form more than 90 per cent of the persons now engaged in this occupation, will have a vital role in the post-war rehabilitation services to physically handicapped persons, said Frieda S. Miller, Director of the Women's Bureau of the U. S. Department of Labor, in announcing publication of a bulletin that discusses the situation. Miss Miller said a fifth of all patients in a large military general hospital now are referred to the department of physical therapy. The bulletin points out that civilian demands for this type of treatment also are growing.

ANNUAL MASS FOR RETREATANTS

The annual mass and communion of the Catholic Laymen's Retreat Association will be celebrated next Sunday, March 18, by Archbishop John J. Mitty in St. Mary's cathedral, at 8 a. m. Later, Municipal Judge Edward Molkenbuhr will preside at the breakfast to be served at the Palace hotel. The guest speaker will be Chaplain Lieut. Comdr. Cyril R. Kavanagh, U.S.N.R., whose subject will be "Returning Veterans and Rehabilitation." During 1944, 285 servicemen, mainly convalescents from local military hospitals, spent their week-ends at the Jesuit Retreat House, Los Altos, with all expenses paid. Ways to enable more returning veterans to share this same hospitality during 1945 will be discussed at the breakfast. Eight hundred "Men of El Retiro" are expected to be present.

Major George Fielding Eliot is doing so able a job of interpreting the war, we think his syndicate ought to promote him to Lieutenant-Colonel.—The Detroit News.

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State Federation of Labor Opposes Bill Seeking to Emasculate California's Workmen's Compensation Laws

Attention has already been directed to the insidious attacks upon California's Workmen's Compensation laws contained in Assembly Bill 1924, known as the Philadelphia Lawyers' Bill.

A further analysis of bills pending in the Legislature discloses the startling fact that numerous other attacks upon the Workmen's Compensation laws are sponsored by the three members of the Assembly Interim Committee appointed to investigate practice and procedure in the administration of that law. The gentlemen in question are Albert M. King of Oroville, Frank J. Waters of Los Angeles and Clyde A. Watson of Orange county.

As already intimated, these three legislators—two lawyers and one orange grower—are evidently laboring under the illusion that the Workmen's Compensation laws were enacted for the benefit of insurance companies and their lawyers. To this end, they propose to make it as difficult as possible for injured workers to collect compensation.

This, of course, is entirely contrary to the mandate of the people of California, as expressed in the constitutional amendment setting up the workmen's compensation program in this State. This mandate provided that workmen's compensation cases should be tried "expeditiously, inexpensively, and without incumbrance of any character." It is clear that the three before-mentioned gentlemen have entirely forgotten this command of the people and are now attempting to make workmen's compensation proceedings so cumbersome and complicated that workmen will be utterly unable to obtain speedy justice before the Industrial Accident Commission. Bills have been introduced to eliminate benefits of liberal decisions by the courts and to otherwise whittle away the gains for which labor has fought long and hard.

In a recent decision, the State Supreme Court held that a widow or other dependent could file a claim for a death benefit within one year of death of the victim or within two years of the date of the injury, whichever gave the dependents the longer period of time in which to file the claim. At least five bills have been introduced to do away with the benefits upheld by this decision. These bills are: A. B. 1720, introduced by Waters; A. B. 1831, King, Waters and Watson; A. B. 1866, 1869, King, and A. B. 1977, Waters.

Another series of bills, if adopted, would result in hopeless confusion and chaos in the administration of the workmen's compensation laws. These bills duplicate, without reason, many provisions relating to procedure before the Industrial Accident Commission

which are already in the law, and, in addition, make changes which are unimportant and unnecessary. Furthermore, the proposed bills make no attempt to repeal existing sections of the Labor Code, consequently, if enacted it would be impossible for anyone to determine what the law is. Such bills are: A. B. 1934, King and Waters; A. B. 1935, King, Watson and Waters; A. B. 1936, King, Watson and Waters; A. B. 1938, King, Watson and Waters.

Still another series of bills seemingly change only a word or two of certain sections of the Labor Code, such as the word "such" to "the," or re-enact a present section without change. On their face these bills seem to accomplish nothing in particular and they

might be thought harmless. They are potentially very dangerous, however, since they evidently have been introduced as "skeleton" bills, which later can be drastically amended. Such bills are: A. B. 1832, A. B. 1833, A. B. 1834 and A. B. 1835, all introduced by King, Watson and Waters.

Two bills, A. B. 1864 and A. B. 1867, introduced by King, would require the Industrial Accident Commission to "evaluate" evidence in terms of "weight and credibility." At the present time, the Industrial Accident Commission, like other courts and commissions, may accept the testimony of a lesser number of witnesses against a larger number or may accept a lesser number of medical reports against a larger number of medical reports, if it believes that the truth rests with the lesser number. This is the universal rule. While the language contained in the proposed bills does not express it in so many words, such language would soon be interpreted to mean that the Industrial Accident Commission would be compelled to accept the testimony of five doctors or five other witnesses of the insurance carrier as against one doctor or one other witness of the injured worker regardless of where the truth might lie.

Another bill, A. B. 1941, introduced by King, strikes a direct blow at labor in attempting to deprive it of a valuable service now rendered by the legal bureau of the Industrial Accident Commission. This bill provides that the legal work of the Commission shall be done by the Attorney General or by district attorneys. At the present time, when cases are appealed to the courts, the Commission's attorneys represent the Commission in such proceedings. If the decision has been in favor of the employee, the attorneys, by representing the Commission, indirectly represent the employee, and the employee has thus been saved the expenses of hiring an attorney. The valuable service and good work of the attorneys for the Commission in this respect is well known. The proposed bill would allow the Attorney General to require the "real parties in interest" to have their own attorneys handle the cases on appeal. In other words, the insurance companies would always be well represented by their attorneys, but the injured employee or his widow would be put to the expense of hiring an attorney or have no attorney at all. This bill, therefore, is a bold and bald attempt to place the victims of industrial accidents still further at the mercy of insurance companies.

In 1943, these insurance companies collected in California approximately seventy-four million dollars in premiums for workmen's compensation insurance. Approximately 40 per cent of this tidy sum is retained by these companies for "overhead" expense. Apparently that is not enough in the opinion of legislators who sponsor the bills analyzed herein!

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Metal Trades' Warning on Interference with Unions

Undersecretary of the Navy Ralph A. Bard has been urged by the A.F.L. Metal Trades Department to halt interference by commandants at navy yards with the internal affairs of unions.

More and more commandants have been putting out orders forbidding supervisory employees—even though they have been union members for many years—from holding office in unions or engaging in any other union activity. Some commandants have extended the restriction to non-supervisory employees and to "straw bosses" who have little or no authority.

The ban has stirred widespread resentment among navy yard workers. President N. P. Alifas of District No. 44, International Association of Machinists, protested vehemently.

Secretary-Treasurer James J. McEntee of the Metal Trades Department followed up with a direct appeal to Bard to "rectify" the situation.

"Men who are promoted to supervisors are selected because of ability," McEntee wrote Bard. "To deny them the right to continue to hold office in a union simply means that either they must refuse supervisory appointments or the union is deprived of men whose record has shown them to be capable leaders."

"If, as we believe, the Navy Department is sympathetic toward unionism, I am sure you will find a way to remove any barriers which stand in the way of the proper functioning of unions. Paralyzing the participation of supervisors in unions is definitely a serious barrier."

"We believe it is unjust to deprive the labor movement of the contribution of some of its ablest members. Also, it is unnecessary, because the supervisors will serve well and even better on the basis of co-operation, and it is highly inexpedient for a department of the government to take a backward step in contrast with private industry."

Civilians we are informed, will have only 4700 matches each in 1945. That means only 13 matches per day. And there must be at least 50,000,000 persons who wish they could be sure of having something to light up with their allotment.—*St. Louis Post-Dispatch*.



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Run o' the Hook

By FRED E. HOLDERBY,
President of Typographical Union No. 21

Attend your union meeting Sunday, Convention hall at the Labor Temple, at 1 p. m. Special order of business will be presentation of 40-year and 50-year Honor Roll Emblems to our members with continuous membership of long standing. Twenty-seven additional 40-year emblems will be presented, while 52 members with membership of 50 years or more (some of whom have carried cards more than 60 years) will be honored with 50-year buttons.

The annual dinner and get-together of San Francisco Allied Printing Trades Council took place this year on the evening of March 7 at Riviera Restaurant, 621 Union street, when around sixty delegates and their women folk and guests of the Council gathered for an excellent dinner and an evening of entertainment consisting of speeches, gab-fests and songs old and new. Among the guests were John O'Connell, secretary of San Francisco Labor Council; L. A. Ireland, secretary of the Employing Printers and the Printing Trades Conference; Cliff M. Doan of Schwabacher-Frey and president of the Employing Printers' Association; George Spooner, international representative of the Printing Pressmen, and Ross Ewing, representing the East Bay Allied Council. Under the heading of old-time melodies encores were demanded for solos rendered by John O'Connell and Sheriff Dan Murphy. Vice-President William Hogan of the Council acted as master of ceremonies.

Mrs. Ralph Turrentine last week received notice from the War Department that her husband, Lieut. Ralph Turrentine of the *Call-Bulletin* had been officially declared killed in action in September. During the African campaign Ralph's plane was seen to go down during action and was so reported by his flight commander. Search was made in this sector following its capture by our troops, but no grave or other evidence was ever unearthed. Mrs. Turrentine left this week for Florida by motor to attend a ceremony at Drew Field later this month, when she will be presented the Flying Medal and other decorations awarded posthumously to her husband.

Jesse Green, formerly of the *People's Daily World* chapel, who has fully recovered from a recent operation at Fort Miley, and his wife, Blanche Green, formerly of the Recorder proofroom, each drew travelers on Friday of last week and left for their new home on acreage at Mountain View.

Raymond L. (Chief) Ready, who left this port last May as boatswain aboard a merchant vessel, arrived back in San Francisco last Monday on a Dutch hospital ship from New Caledonia. The "Chief" arrived just in time to participate in the welcome being accorded by San Francisco to the heroes of Bataan and other liberated prisoners and casualties being returned from the Pacific theater. He had spent the past four months as a patient at base hospitals and aboard hospital ships since being stricken on the high seas last November, and is now under medical care. Raymond has covered most of the globe as merchant seaman since the start of the war.

Henry Borchers, a sub when he left the *Call-Bulletin* three years ago to help "shoulder the load" in the shipyards, returned last week to find he is a situation holder. He made the change from shipbuilding to operating later on in the week.

Hypolito Perry, of the Perry Publishing Company, 447 Sansome street, passed away at 553 Eighth avenue early Tuesday morning. A native of Hawaii, deceased was born at Honolulu September 3, 1885, and was 59 years of age. He became a member of San

Francisco Typographical Union in 1928, while associated with the Pacific Coast Publishing Company, publisher of the *Pacific Merchant*, which he took over in 1933 under the name of the Perry Publishing Company. He had been ill the past few years, and had retired in September of last year because of a heart ailment. His wife, Henrietta, preceded him in death by three years. Surviving are a son, Albert F. Perry, former apprentice member, and a daughter, Mrs. Geraldine Laverty of Eureka; while his brother, Manuel Perreira of the Phillips & Van Orden chapel, and a nephew, Clarence R. Perreira of the Recorder Printing Company, are both members of No. 21. The funeral was conducted from the Reilly chapel, Twenty-ninth and Dolores, Thursday morning to Star of the Sea Church on Geary, where requiem mass was offered. Interment was at Holy Cross.

Machinist Kinsey Thomas of the *Chronicle* chapel, it is reported, will enter a hospital shortly for an operation. He has not worked the past month while receiving treatment and checkup on stomach trouble with which he has suffered for some time.

Not in the best of health the past few months, L. L. Heagney last Saturday resigned his position in the machine room of the *San Francisco News*. His fellow workers, at a chapel meeting last week, presented him with a remembrance in recognition of his many years with that chapel in the way of a beautiful pen and pencil set.

Absent from his work the past three weeks, Gordon Gollan of the A. C. Gollan & Son Printing Company is reported as convalescing at his home, although still taking treatment for high blood pressure.

Jack J. McCoy of the *Examiner* chapel, who underwent a tonsillectomy early this month, suffered a hemorrhage last week as a result of the operation. At last reports, however, he had fully recovered and was expected to be back on the job this week.

Death came on Friday of last week to Mrs. Lena Marshall, 72, mother of Edwin L. Marshall of the Marshall-Adams Company, at her home in South San Francisco. The funeral was conducted from the chapel of Carew & English Wednesday morning with requiem high mass at St. Monica's church at 9:30 o'clock. Interment was at Holy Cross Cemetery.

Grace Hamblin, *Chronicle* operator who received serious metal burns on her right ankle the latter part of January, is back on the job once again. Treatment for an infection which set in necessitated an absence from her work of more than six weeks.

Kenneth J. Pelhank of the *Examiner* proofroom, who for almost two years has been a civilian employee of the Navy, the last year of which time he spent at Pearl Harbor, is now spending a thirty-day furlough here with his family, who have continued to reside in San Francisco during his absence. Pelhank is of the opinion, following expiration of his leave of absence, he will be assigned to duties in this area.

Word was received by members of the *Call-Bulletin* chapel that O. P. Weakley, who retired as operator in that chapel around six months ago, and who has been residing in southern California, has been ill the past two months and had undergone an operation.

R. T. (Bob) Britt of the *Examiner* chapel, who has been bothered with rheumatism for some time, has been off the past two weeks while receiving a complete hospital checkup and attending to some dental work in an effort to run down the source of his trouble.

R. L. Hathaway of the Recorder monotype department, who was stricken while at work last Friday night, was entered at St. Joseph's Hospital the following day in serious condition. A diagnosis of his case, it is reported, shows a blood clot near the heart, which makes his condition critical and one which will not permit of an operation.

Corporal Art von Konsky, apprentice member of the Mercury Press, now with an Engineers Combat Battalion somewhere in Germany, in a letter arriving last week at headquarters tells of receiving wounds in the December breakthrough which he describes as "slight." Nevertheless, Corporal von Konsky has been awarded two Oak Leaf Clusters in addition to the Purple Heart in recognition of his action in this breakthrough. Art's chief concern at the time of writing, on February 24, was the fact that most of

his possessions had been captured by the enemy, and included in this loss was the last unit of his I.T.U. Course of Lessons in Printing which he carried with him and had almost completed. The last seven lessons in this five-year course are, however, too far advanced to be of value to the enemy.

George Romero of the *Examiner* chapel was called to Los Angeles recently because of relatives' illness, and spent two weeks in the southern city.

James L. Buck, *Call-Bulletin* proofreader serving in Uncle Sam's Navy, is now stationed at Treasure Island, where he is receiving "shots" preparatory to being assigned to active duty.

Dr. Earl L. Chappell, formerly of the *Call-Bulletin* chapel and now chiropractic doctor at 150 Powell street, has received a letter from Frank (Bill) Newlin, retired member who is well known to all old-timers in the Bay area. "Bill" is now located at Las Vegas, Nev., and tells of the wonderful fishing in the Colorado river. He claims the bass he catches are 90 picas or more in length.

Les Jergens, *Examiner* bank man, recently received a letter from his brother, John, apprentice member of the *Examiner* chapel, who is still stationed at Camp McKinley, Alaska, with the Coast Artillery. Les is another member of the *Examiner* chapel who lost his tonsils during the past month.

Joseph Rossi of the *Examiner* makeup department, whose mother recently passed away in Bakersfield, has been spending the past two weeks with relatives in the Valley city.

An interesting letter arrived last Monday from W. W. Baker, retired member of No. 21, who resides at 6226 Hillandale drive, Los Angeles. On September 25 last year Mr. Baker reached his sixtieth year as a continuous member of the I.T.U., and his letter is reminiscent of times following his first affiliation with Springfield (Illinois) Typographical Union in 1884. Interesting is his account of meeting his wife, Martha N. Lakin, nurse who attended the First Lady during her last illness—the wife of Abraham Lincoln—whom he married in 1883, while he was serving as reader for the Supreme Court reporter, Norman L. Freeman. His apprenticeship had been served in the Illinois State Printing Office. For four years previous to coming to California in 1909 Baker had held the revising desk at the George D. Barnard plant, which at that time claimed to be the largest blank book printing plant in the world.

Another operator situation was given out at the *Call-Bulletin* last week, Hiram Hedges being placed on a situation starting last Saturday.

Woman's Auxiliary No. 21 To S.F.T.U. No. 21

By Louise A. Abbott

The ways and means committee and the label committee met on Tuesday, Feb. 27, at the home of Mrs. Loraine Kriese. Refreshments were served by the hostess and plans for the balance of the year will be divulged at the next meeting.

The executive committee met Tuesday, March 6, at the home of Secretary Myrtle L. Bardsley. After the business was concluded the hostess served refreshments.

The regular business meeting will be held next Tuesday evening, March 20, at 8 o'clock, Sagamore hall, Red Men's building, 240 Golden Gate Ave. You are urged to attend this important meeting as local auxiliaries shall by a majority vote nominate a candidate for each elective office of the W.I.A. Following the business session there will be cards and refreshments. Come and bring your family as these social get togethers are always enjoyable.

Sympathy is extended to Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Deurloo in their recent bereavement, the loss of his father.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Berliner are very happy at this writing, their son, Marvin, chief boastwain mate, arrived home last Saturday and is located at Alameda Base.

Lester L. Heagney was honored last Saturday by the *News* chapel upon his retirement after 20 years. Speeches, an original cartoon of himself by De Carlo, *News* cartoonist, a beautiful pen and pencil set and other gifts were presented. Mr. Heagney is well known to all of us by his column in The LABOR CLARION for over 20 years.

A celebration both impressive and colorful of the (Continued on Page Nine)

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Mailer Notes

By LEROY C. SMITH

San Francisco-Oakland Mailers Union No. 18 will meet in regular monthly session at the Labor Temple the coming Sunday.

Among matters coming before the union will be final nomination for local officers and delegates to local and other printing trades bodies.

Arthur W. ("Mose") Berliner, chapel chairman, "pulled his slip" on *Examiner* last week, accepting a regular position in *Daily News* chapel. William Soree succeeds Arthur as chapel chairman.

The Rochester proposition, up to March 10, has 17 official endorsements, and has only been before local unions since February 19. Among the 127 unions reported endorsement of the Rochester proposition were the following: Philadelphia, Louisville, Baltimore, Peoria, Minneapolis, Des Moines, Fargo, Elmira, Elizabeth, St. Louis Mailers, Sacramento, Knoxville Mailers, Boston, Oakland, Cincinnati, Richmond, Fresno, San Diego, Whittier and Bakersfield.

The Rochester Proposition reads as follows:

"Shall a special assessment of one-half of one per cent be levied upon total earnings of all active members (except sick and incapacitated members and pensioners) for a period of six months, beginning July 1, 1945, ad ending December 31, 1945, with the receipts therefrom to be allocated to the General Fund for the purpose of paying representatives and strike benefits and for providing special assistance to local unions."

Excerpts from "Mailers Column" in "Lakeside Bulletin," published for the employees of R. R. Donnelley & Sons Company by the organization committee of Chicago Printing Trades Unions, N. M. Di Pietro, executive secretary. Anthony Tenzi, in Mailers Column says: "**** some of you may wonder why I am a unionist. The only thing that has me wondering if how any Lakeside mailer, knowing the facts, could hesitate at being a unionist *** by being a unionist I know that I am following the proper course to promote the welfare of my family **** Mailers union has never permitted any of its people to get the worst of it in any way *** I have been asked, 'Aren't you fearful of being pushed around because of union activity? What have I or any one else to fear? The law of the land protects me. The Mailers union protected its friends for decades before the laws of the land recognized the right of workers to organize."

Some injustices in the bonus system in Dept. DE (Donnelly & Sons)—A mailer ties about 68 bundles per hour with good rope. The good rope disappears. The same mailer ties 55 bundles in an hour and a quarter with the substitute rope. Result: loss of bonus through failure of the system to provide for circumstances. The bonus system is as sure a method of cutting wages as anything could be *** there is no adjustment in hourly rates and quotas to permit equal expenditure of effort to stabilize earnings when using substitute material. What compensation does a mailer, using substitute rope, receive for his turn back? A mailer tying bundles on *Reader's Digest* earns a bonus on fewer bundles per hour than the Mailer who ties the telephone book. The phone book is four times as big *** suppose that the Mailer were transferred from the Digest to phone book bundling in the middle of the week. Here is a case where one's back and his pay check can sympathize with each other."

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Run o' the Hook

(Continued from Page Eight)

25th birthday of the Golden Gate Post 40 and Golden Gate Unit, attended by the writer and Secretary Myrtle L. Bardsley, members, was held last Tuesday evening at Veterans building. A beautiful candlelight ceremony honored all past presidents and one was lighted in honor of Mabel Porter, first president of Diamond Head Unit, Hawaii. One of the highlights of the evening was the presentation of certificates and emblems for 25 years continuous membership in the American Legion. Harry Porter, husband of Mary Porter, and C. J. Shipaugh of the *Examiner* chapel were among those honored.

Dr. Ernest Abbott, Physicist, of Ann Arbor, Mich., cousin of Clarence and J. Lyle Abbott, is on a business trip to the Pacific Coast and a guest at the Abbott household.

Golf News — By Charles A. White

Soon it will be March 25, the date of the Union Printers Golf Association championship match play qualifying round. This year the qualifying round will be played at the popular El Camino course. After this tournament there will be a complete revision of the handicap list. The handicap committee will take slices off the boys who are "hot" and will give the fellows who are off their game a better handicap.

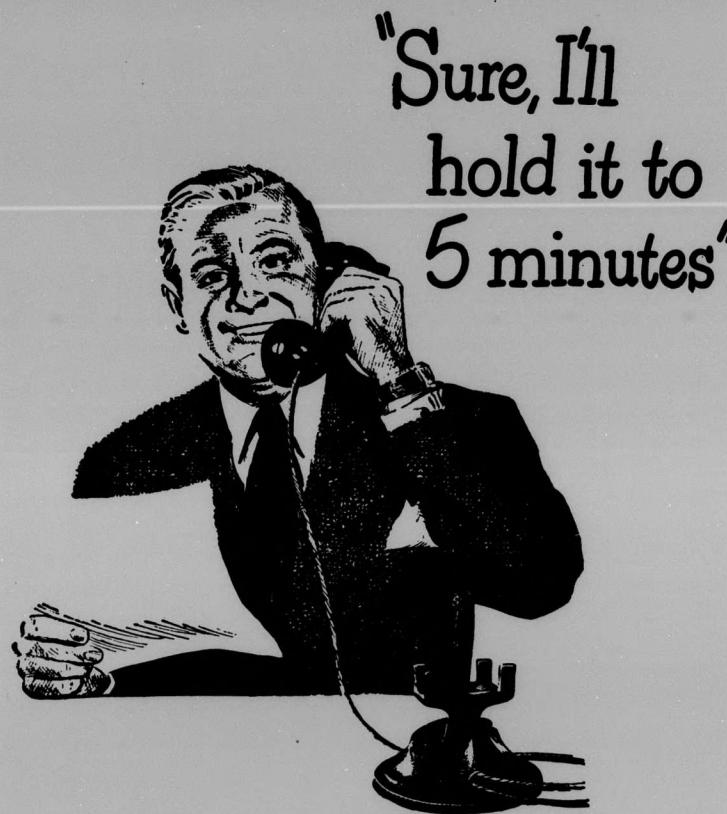
The secretary has been checking the standings of the members for the play on the MacDermitt

Trophy and finds that Jess Conaway is the leader with 12 points and Percy Crebassa and John Rice are tied for second with 7 points each. There are 8 months more of competition for this trophy.

Some of our boys have survived the first round of the City Golf Championship, while others haven't been so fortunate. Wallace Kibbee lost to his opponent 2 and 1. Howard Watson was defeated by the same score. Jack Tappendorff was a winner by default. "Steamer" Nicholson lost 2 up. Percy Crebassa defeated the popular jurist, Lyle Jacks, 2 and 1. Jess Conaway drew a bye. Charles White won his match 2 up.

PROFITS OF BUSINESS

If, as propagandists have charged, the O.P.A. has been trying to regulate profits, why are earnings of industry several times higher than before the war? Chester Bowles, director of the O.P.A., posed that question before the Senate Commerce Committee. Corporation profits, he said, have risen each year since 1939. In that year, after taxes, they were four billions, while last year, after taxes, profits were ten billions. The latter figure is two billions greater than corporations made in the boom year of 1929. Little business, Bowles insisted, is doing as well. Last year, he said, there were only 1221 business failures, compared with 31,882 failures in 1932.



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S. F. Labor Council

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Headquarters Phone MArket 6304

The Labor Council meets every Friday at 8 p. m., at the Labor Temple. The Executive and Arbitration Committee meets every Monday, at 8 p. m. The Organizing Committee meets every Friday, at 7:30 p. m. The Union Label Section meets the first Wednesday of every month, at 7:30 p. m.

Synopsis of Meeting Held Friday, March 9, 1945.

Meeting called to order at 8:15 p. m. by President Shelley.

Roll Call of Officers—All present.

Credentials—Referred to the organizing committee: Bill Posters and Billers No. 44—B. A. Brundage, Loyal H. Gilmour, Hospital and Institutional Workers No. 250—Evelyn Briggs, Edwin McCarthy, Arthur Hare, Maurice Murray, Catherine Haddad, Paul Kenner, Elizabeth Kracke, Anna McGavin.

Report of the Organizing Committee—(Meeting held Friday, March 9.) Meeting called to order at 7:30 p. m. Roll was called and the following were present—Brothers Bruno, Caras, Giannini, Lane, Piccini and Sister Fitzgerald. Absent were Brothers Harold Lopez, R. Paterson and Thomas Rotell. The following were examined and having been found to possess the proper qualifications, your committee recommends that they be seated as delegates to this Council: Cooks No. 44—Alonzo L. Pearce, William Kilpatrick. Meeting adjourned at 8 p. m. The report of the committee as a whole was adopted.

Communications—Filed: The following organizations advised that they had indorsed the Council's resolution pertaining to the fund-raising drive of the Red Cross: Shipfitters No. 9, Molders No. 164, Barbers No. 148, Auto Mechanics No. 1305. From Cooks No. 44, announcing its indorsement of resolution pertaining to the World Labor Conference. From American National Red Cross, San Francisco Chapter, receipts for \$757.34, representing donations from various affiliated unions. From War Production Board, Washington, D. C., acknowledging receipt of Council's telegram of February 6, expressing concern about eight-point O.P.A.-W.P.B. joint program for textiles. From Masters, Mates and Pilots No. 40, advising adoption of resolution, protesting a raise in streetcar fare, submitted by Laundry Workers No. 26. From secretary to President Roosevelt, thanking the Council for its co-operative spirit evidenced in its recent letter regarding the United Nations Conference. From the Department of State, acknowledging receipt of resolution from this Council, on December 18, re-

garding statement of this Government's policy toward the liberated countries of Europe. From the California State Federation of Labor, material to be used in support of health insurance bill submitted by the Governor and others (A. B. 800 and S. B. 500).

Bills were presented, approved by the trustees and ordered paid.

Donations: To San Francisco Chapter, National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis—Teamsters No. 85, \$100.; Photo Engravers No. 8, \$10. To San Francisco Chapter, American Red Cross—Macaroni Workers No. 493, \$300.00; Laundry Drivers No. 256, \$340.00; Chauffeurs No. 265, \$3200.00; Bottlers No. 293, \$2000.00; Milk Wagon Drivers No. 226, \$2500.00; Cooks No. 44, \$382.66. To San Francisco War Chest—Cooks No. 44, \$765.34 (Feb. contribution).

Resolution—From Laundry Workers No. 26, protesting the passage of Assembly Bill No. 1763, relating to the regulation and licensing of cleaning, dyeing and pressing establishments and persons engaged therein, and asking that the Council send letters of protest to members of the Assembly. Motion that the resolution be adopted; carried. (See resolution in full in another column.)

Resolution—From Masters, Mates and Pilots, opposing passage of H. R. 1425, (S. 292). Motion that the resolution be adopted; carried.

Resolution—From Laundry Workers No. 26, relating to support of the Governor's health insurance program. Motion that the resolution be adopted; amendment to the motion that the resolution be tabled (previous action having been taken in this connection); amendment to the motion; carried.

Request Complied With—From Pharmacists No. 838, requesting the Council's support in combatting the passage of Assembly Bill No. 481. Motion, to instruct the officers of the Council to comply with this request; carried.

Referred to the Executive Committee—From San Francisco Building and Construction Trades Council, advising that its executive board is recommending that the Cleveland Wrecking Company be placed on the "We Don't Patronize" List, and requesting that the Council co-operate with them in this matter.

Reports of Unions—Delegate Ballerini, Production Machinists No. 1327, thanked Miscellaneous Employees No. 110 for their assistance in organizing the China Aircraft Company; he also asked for the co-operation of Teamsters No. 85 in this connection. Delegate Lindquist reported that Bakers No. 24 are attempting to negotiate a new agreement with the Master Bakers; they have received a favorable reply from the War Labor Board regarding their Auxiliary, composed of women workers; they have received 8½ cents more per hour; thanked Brothers Phillips and Maltester for their assistance on the War Labor Board. Waiters No. 30 reported that through the War

Housing Has Floor Sunday On KPO's 'America United'

"A National Housing Program" is the topic scheduled for discussion next Sunday when "America United" is broadcast over KPO at 8:15 a. m. Guest speaker will be Senator Robert F. Wagner of New York who, during his office, has introduced the National Industrial Recovery Act, the Social Security Act, National Labor Relations Act, and other social and economic legislations in the Senate.

After the Senator's talk, Boris Shiskin, statistician of the American Federation of Labor, Emerson P. Schmidt, director of the national Chamber of Commerce's economics and research division, and Paul Sifton of the National Farmers Union will participate in a panel discussion of the subject. "America United" series is under the supervision of NBC's public service department. The first thirteen weeks are under the auspices of the American Federation of Labor.

VICTORY GARDENS IN GOOD START

Victory gardens are off to a good start in the South and Pacific Coast States, according to reports from State Extension Service directors, War Food Administration, reported. In two states the Governors issued proclamations calling attention to the need for home gardens and setting goals to be reached. Several states report increased interest among gardeners, as shown by increased sales of seed and inquiries for garden publications.

ATTACKS "EQUAL RIGHTS" MEASURE

During a press conference, Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins delivered a strong attack upon the "equal rights" amendment to the Constitution now pending in Congress. She said: "I see no sense in ripping up the Constitution to pass a theoretical measure which, while its words sound plausible, will have an effect we can hardly calculate on all laws now on the books designed to protect women workers from exploitation."

Labor Board they have received an increase of 15 cents per hour. Delegate Walsh announced that Tuesday, March 20th, there would be a meeting of the law and legislative committee and requested that the Council of Municipal Employees have representation present at this meeting. Also requested that the law and legislative committee of the Building Trades Council be notified of this meeting. It was reported that Brother Herbert Falk, formerly a member of Bakery Wagon Drivers No. 484, was reported "killed in action," and it was suggested that when the Council adjourn it do so in respect to the memory of Brother Falk. Delegate May, Masters, Mates and Pilots No. 90, reported that some of his members had received retroactive pay for the past nine months. Miscellaneous Employees No. 110 announced that the organization for the prevention of tuberculosis will make examinations free of charge through the Public Health Department and will advise persons who might be affected as to what they can do. Brother Probert, Labor's Liason Officer for the Red Cross, reported that contributions are coming in very satisfactorily in the Red Cross Drive.

The Secretary announced that a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Council will be held on Monday evening, March 12th at 8:00 p. m.

Receipts, \$2000.00; Disbursements, \$3720.00.

Meeting adjourned at 10:05 p. m.

Respectfully submitted,
JOHN A. O'CONNELL, Secretary.

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"We Don't Patronize" List

The concerns listed below are on the "We Don't Patronize" list of the San Francisco Labor Council. Members of labor unions and sympathizers are requested to note this list carefully from week to week:

Adam Hat Stores, Inc., 119 Kearny.
Advance Pattern Company, 552 Mission.
American Distributing Company.
Austin Studio, 833 Market.

Becker Distributing Company.
Bruener, John, Company.
B & G Sandwich Shops.

California Watch Case Company.
Chan Quon, photo engraver, 680 Clay.

Curtis Publishing Co. (Philadelphia), publishers of *Saturday Evening Post, Ladies' Home Journal, Country Gentleman*.

Doran Hotels (include St. Regis, 85 Fourth St.; Mint, 141 Fifth St.; Hale, 939 Mission St.; Land, 936 Mission St.; Hillsdale, 51 Sixth St.; Grand Central, 1412 Market St., and the Ford Apartments, 957 Mission St.)

Drake Cleaners and Dyers.
Forderer Corrine Works, 269 Potrero.

Gantner & Mattern, 1453 Mission.
Gates Rubber Company, 2700 Sixteenth Street.
General Distillers, Ltd., 136 Front St.

Goldstone Bros., Manufacturers of overalls and working men's clothing.

Lucerne Apartments, 766 Sutter.
National Beauty Salon, 207 Powell.
Navalet Seed Company, 423 Market.
O'Keefe-Merritt Stove Co., Products, Los Angeles.
Pacific Label Company, 1150 Folsom.
Remington-Rand, Inc., 509 Market.

Romaine Photo Studio, 220 Jones.
Royal Typewriter Company, 153 Kearny.
Sealey Mattress Company, 6699 San Pablo Avenue, Oakland.

Sherwin-Williams Paint Company.
Sloane, W. & J.

Smith, L. C., Typewriter Company, 545 Market.
Speed-E Menu Service, 693 Mission.

Standard Oil Company.
Stanford University Hospital, Clay and Webster.
Sutro Baths and Skating Rink.

Swift & Co.
Time and Life (magazines), products of the unfair Donnelley firm (Chicago).

Underwood Typewriter Company, 531 Market.
Val Vita Food Products, Inc., Fullerton, Calif.
Wooldridge Tractor Equipment Company, Sunnyvale, California.

All non-union independent taxicabs.

Barber Shops that do not display the shop card of the Journeymen Barbers' Union are unfair.

Beauty Shops that do not display the shop card of the Hairdressers and Cosmetologists' Department of the Journeymen Barbers' International Union of America are unfair.

Cleaning establishments that do not display the shop card of Retail Cleaners' Union No. 93 are unfair.

Locksmith Shops which do not display the union shop card of Federated Locksmiths No. 1331 are unfair.

Forced Labor Service Legislation Unconstitutional Beyond Doubt, Illinois Federation Official Points Out

CHICAGO.—Forced labor legislation is "clearly unconstitutional," Victor A. Olander, secretary-treasurer of the Illinois State Federation of Labor, declared here.

The fundamental issue now before each member of Congress in regard to forced labor is that of respect for or disregard of the Constitution," he asserted.

The Constitution, according to the U.S. Supreme Court, is all inclusive and cannot be suspended," Olander pointed out, calling attention to the following statement of the court:

"The Constitution of the United States is a law for rulers and people, equally in war and in peace, and covers with the shield of its protection all classes of men at all times and under all circumstances."

Quotes Court Definition

Setting forth that the President and Congress are under oath to uphold and defend the Constitution, he said that the labor article, or 13th amendment, provided:

"Section 1. Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.

"Section 2. Congress shall have the power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

The Supreme Court, he added, defined the 13th amendment as follows:

"It was a charter of universal civil freedom for all persons, of whatever race, color or estate, under the flag. The plain intention was to abolish slavery of whatever name and form and all its badges and incidents; to make labor free by prohibiting that control by which the personal service of one man is disposed of or coerced for another's benefit which is the essence of involuntary servitude. There is no more important concern than to safeguard the freedom of labor upon which alone can enduring prosperity be based."

"The Supreme Court reaffirmed its attitude as late

as April, 1944, less than a year ago," the labor official said.

"Congress," Olander continued, "has recognized the meaning and significance of the labor article, or 13th amendment. Upon the annexation of Hawaii, Congress passed the territorial act applicable to the Hawaiian Islands, containing a section providing that all contracts to perform 'personal service or labor' for a definite period of time were 'null and void.' Congress passed the Railway Labor Act in which the following appears: 'Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to require an individual employee to render labor or services without his consent, nor shall anything in this chapter be construed to make the quitting of his labor or service by an individual employee an illegal act; nor shall any court issue any process to compel the performance by an individual employee of such service or labor, without his consent.'

"The United States, by action of the Senate, ratified the international anti-slavery treaty, with the reservation that our republic, because of its public policy against compulsory labor, could not agree to a clause in the treaty permitting forced labor for public purposes. The War Labor Disputes Act, and its anti-strike section, contain the following proviso: 'No individual shall be deemed to have violated the provisions of this section by reason only of his having ceased work or having refused to continue to work or to accept employment.'

"Forced labor is 'involuntary servitude,' the state labor leader emphasized. "No person under the American flag can be legally subjected to a condition of forced labor regulations 'except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted.'

"Can a refusal to submit to a condition prohibited by the 13th amendment be made a crime by an act of Congress? The Supreme Court answers: 'It does not permit slavery or involuntary servitude to be established or maintained through the operation of criminal law by making it a crime to refuse to submit to the one or to render the service which constitute the other.'

lution have, and represent within their jurisdiction, parts of the cleaning and dyeing industry, and,

Whereas, The passage of such a Bill would take away all the constitutional rights, privileges and freedom of our workers and place an unconstitutional burden upon them; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Labor Council go on record as strenuously protesting this Bill or any other similar type of legislation, and be it further

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Labor Council send letters of protest to the above-mentioned assemblies, introducers of said Bill; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be sent to the California State Federation of Labor, requesting their support in the defeat of this Bill.

POST-WAR RESERVES

The post-war reserves of 448 New York municipalities total \$12,876,840. Reserves have been established by 155 villages, 245 towns, 24 cities and 28 counties—totaling 28 per cent of all the local governments of the state, the Municipal Finance Officers Association says. The state of New York itself has set aside \$310,000,000 in post-war reserve funds.

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St. Patrick's Day Ball of Office Employees' Union

Tomorrow evening (Saturday), March 17th, Office Employees' Union No. 21320 is inviting fellow trade union members and friends to join in a St. Patrick's ball to be given by that organization in Scottish Rite Auditorium.

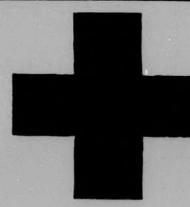
Officials of the union announce that proceeds from the affair are to be devoted to organization work among clerical workers in the city who come under the jurisdiction of that local, which is affiliated with the new international union recently chartered by the American Federation of Labor following a temporary period of functioning as a council of unions for such workers. It is anticipated that the new international union will make outstanding strides in its particular field, and No. 21320 is determined to do its utmost to accomplish that end. Hence the local officials solicit the aid and encouragement of the union workers in this effort, and will greatly appreciate the attendance of members of organized labor and its friends at the ball tomorrow evening as substantial evidence of such support.

The admission price will be \$1 (tax included), and a special rate of 50 cents including tax, has been set for men and women in the armed service. Weidner's orchestra will provide music.

PERMANENT COURSES AT HARVARD

BOSTON.—Continuation of the war industry course will be part of the permanent post-war program of the Harvard Business School, Dean Donald K. David announced. During the war selected business men and trade union executives, 30 to 50 years of age, have taken 4-month advanced training courses, which comprised the only civilian instruction. Otherwise, the school has been occupied with training thousands of Army and Navy officers in the production, distribution, use and control of supplies. "Perhaps for the first time business men, labor organizers and officers connected with industrial problems lived together for nearly four months," Dean David said. "The mutual understanding, tolerance and respect which develop under these circumstances have tremendous significance for the future well-being and security of this country."

Cecil B. DeMille has given up a five-thousand-a-week radio show rather than pay a one-dollar union assessment. Many people find it hard to save a dollar these days.—Howard Brubaker in *The New Yorker*.



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New A.F.L. Radio Series Opens April 7 on CBS

Watch for the A.F.L.'s new series of radio programs which opens on a nation-wide Columbia Broadcasting System network on April 7. Beginning on that date, the A.F.L. will sponsor thirteen weekly shows on CBS, to be broadcast at 3:45 p. m., EWT.

The new series will start immediately after A.F.L. sponsorship of the "American United" program over NBC ends on April 1. It will be entirely different from the forum programs presented on NBC.

On July 7 the A.F.L. will inaugurate a final series of twenty-six weekly broadcasts over the Blue Network which will be heard at 6:45 p. m., EWT, each Saturday.

Fights Draft of Strikers

NEW YORK CITY.—Reclassification to 1-A of three workers in the Cocker Machine and Foundry Co. plant at Gastonia, N. C., after they had refused to cross a picket line established to enforce a War Labor Board order, was protested by the American Civil Liberties Union in letters to Chairman William H. Davis of the W.L.B., and Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, director of Selective Service. The Civil Liberties Union said that a "grave question" as to the propriety of the reclassification was raised by the fact that one of the members of Draft Board No. 3, at Cherryville, N. C., which reclassified the men, was general manager of the Cocker Foundry Co.

The Civil Liberties Union based its protest upon information that a strike had been called against the Cocker Foundry Co. after it had refused to obey a W.L.B. order to establish a maintenance-of-membership clause in its contract with the International Association of Machinists and that three workers, Cyril Honeycutt, Coit Ray and Everette Rhyne, all of Dallas, N. C., refused to cross a picket line to enter the plant. The strike was called after a vote under the provisions of the War Labor Disputes Act.

Noting that the three men had appealed their reclassification the Civil Liberties Union urged General Hershey to intervene in view of the "highly improper" circumstances of the reclassification. To Chairman Davis of the W.L.B., the Civil Liberties Union said: "May we suggest that if the facts given us are correct and the company is refusing to carry out your orders, that steps be taken to secure compliance. Whatever may be said of the action of the men in striking, they are at least morally in the position of supporting the orders of the W.L.B."

SUPPORT APPEAL OF FLORIDA LAW

Following the U. S. Supreme Court's recent decision to review the constitutionality of a Florida law requiring labor unions and their officials to register, the American Civil Liberties Union announced that it would file a brief as a friend of the court urging that the law be declared unconstitutional. The Florida law reached the Supreme Court in an appeal initiated by a Jacksonville plumbers' local (A.F.L.), through Leo H. Hill, president of the Florida Federation of Labor. The Civil Liberties Union is also filing a brief supporting an appeal against a similar Alabama law, which the Supreme Court certified for hearing last November, but which has not yet been argued. The court declared unconstitutional in January a section of a Texas statute requiring labor organizers to register on an appeal by R. J. Thomas, president of the United Automobile Workers (C.I.O.). The Civil Liberties Union filed a brief as a friend of the court supporting Thomas.

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GEORGIA FREE STATE

There is something inspiring in Georgia's abolition of the poll tax. This action by a state which ten years ago was sneeringly referred to as a bog of bigotry—action, we emphasize, which the Georgians took on their own initiative and not as the result of outside pressure and campaigning—shows again that self-help and self-determination are the greatest assets man individually or collectively can have.—*St. Louis Post-Dispatch.*

MEANY AT MEXICO CITY PARLEY

MEXICO CITY.—The United States presented on Problems of War and Peace an "economic charter of the Americas" designed to increase collaboration in the war effort, insure an orderly transition from wartime to peacetime economy and produce a rising level of living throughout the hemisphere. A.F.L. Secretary-Treasurer George Meany, who is attending the conference as a member of the United States delegation, expressed particular interest in the economic aspects of this charter.

The Need Is Great for Used Appliances

WHILE you're house cleaning or rummaging around in closets, basement or garage you may discover some idle, usable or easily repairable appliances. If you are not using them why not swap or sell them?

We have set up in our local offices a clearing house service for appliances. Here you can list the appliances you would like to sell or swap. Here also other customers list their needs for certain appliances. After this, buyer and seller deal with one another.

Use this free listing service and do a wartime "good deed" by helping some young or hard-working wartime family get appliances they desperately need but cannot buy elsewhere.



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